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JUL 31 2002

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Applicant: Walter G. Birdsell and William Montague, Jr.  
Serial No: 10/044,817  
Conf. No: 8035  
Filed: January 10, 2002  
For: PORTABLE ELECTRIC HEATER  
Art Unit: 1725  
Conf. No: 8035

COPY OF PAPERS  
ORIGINALLY FILED

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*Carol Ann McPherson*  
Signature

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

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TC 1700

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims

Please amend claims 1, 14, 15, 21, 28, 35, 39, 43, 45, 46, 47, and 50 as follows:

1. (Amended) A portable heater comprising:  
a housing having an air inlet, an air outlet, an exterior surface and a front, wherein the air outlet is at least as large as the air inlet;  
a plurality of baffles located within the housing; and  
a heating element located within the housing, the heating element capable of heating air flowing from the air inlet to the air outlet in a natural convection mode;  
wherein the baffles are constructed and arranged to help maintain at least a portion of the exterior surface of the housing at or below a threshold temperature during heating in at least a